

Message Text

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17
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 L-03 DHA-02 H-02 SCA-01

SY-05 DEAE-00 SNM-02 JUSE-00 FBIE-00 HEW-04 PA-01

USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /055 W
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P 140917Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7920
AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY

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E.O.11652: N/A
TAGS: CASC, BE, EC (YODER, DELIAH AND HERSCHBERGER, JAMES)
SUBJECT: W/W - DELILAH YODER AND JAMES HERSCHBERGER

REF: QUITO 6439

1. DR. OMAR YODER, BROTHER OF DELILAH YODER, HAD LONG CONVERSATION WITH CONSULAR OFFICER ON SEPTEMBER 10 RE DISAPPEARANCE OF SUBJECTS IN ECUADOR. DR. YODER IS NOT CONVINCED THAT SUBJECTS WERE KILLED BY INDIAN GUIDES. HE BELIEVES SUBJECTS COULD STILL BE ALIVE AND ARE BEING HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL. HE CANNOT GUESS MOTIVE OF ALLEGED KIDNAPPER(S) BUT SUGGESTED ONE POSSIBILITY: AN ATTEMPT MAY HAVE BEEN MADE TO RECRUIT SUBJECTS IN INTERNATIONAL DRUG TRAFFIC AND SUBJECTS REFUSED THESE OVERTURES.

2. DR. YODER REQUESTS QUITO CONTACT FOLLOWING USCITS WHO ARE TEACHING ENGLISH IN SCHOOL IN QUITO AND WHO ARE CLOSE FRIENDS OF JAMES HERSCHBERGER. HE BELIEVES THESE USCITS COULD HAVE IMPORTANT INFORMATION AS TO LAST PROPOSED TRIP OF HERSCHBERGER AND YODER: DAVE HUNTER AND ALICE GIRARD, RTE MARCELLO ALBUA, VALVERE 214, URBANIZATION ALORCON MENA, QUITO.

3. DR. YODER STATED THAT IN A COMMUNICATION DATED AUG. 13, 1976 HE FURNISHED QUITO WITH THE NAME OF MARCELO CARRION, BOLIBAR
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12-30, CASILLO 350, CUENCA AND FACTS RE HOW SUBJECTS MET CARRION.

HE DEEPLY BELIEVES CARRION IS THE KEY TO THE DISAPPEARANCE OF SUBJECTS AND SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED MORE THOROUGHLY. HE DOES NOT TRUST THOROUGHNESS OF INVESTIGATION BY ECUADORAN POLICE. HE FEELS THAT CARRION EITHER HAS BRIBED POLICE NOT TO PURSUE INVESTIGATION OR THAT CARRION IS BEING PROTECTED BY INFLUENTIAL ECUADORAN OFFICIALS.

4. DR. YODER SAID THAT GALO PLAZA, FORMER SEC. GEN OF THE O.A.S. AND FORMER PRESIDENT OF ECUADOR, HAS BEEN REQUESTED TO USE HIS INFLUENCE IN TRACING SUBJECTS. REQUEST WAS MADE ON BEHALF OF YODER FAMILY BY YVONNE DAUGHTERS, FOREIGN SCHOLARS PROGRAM, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, BETHESDA, MARYLAND, WHO IS FRIEND OF GALO PLAZA.

5. FOR DEPARTMENTS INFORMATION: DR. YODER SAID THAT HE AND HIS FAMILY ARE EXTREMELY UNHAPPY OVER MANNER IN WHICH THEY PERCEIVED CASE WAS HANDLED BY DEPARTMENT FROM THE BEGINNING. HE FEELS DEPARTMENT TOOK A VERY CAVALIER ATTITUDE TOWARDS DISAPPEARANCE OF SUBJECTS WHEN FIRST CONTACTED BY FAMILY EARLY IN JULY 1976. IT IS YODER FAMILY'S BELIEF THAT IT IS NOW TIME FOR A HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH BY EMBASSY QUITO TO GOVERNMENT OF ECUADOR IN EFFORT TO FORCE A MORE THOROUGH AND VIGOROUS INVESTIGATION OF CASE. TO THIS END DR. YODER STATED THAT FAMILY PLANS TO ASK GOVERNOR MOORE AND SENATOR BYRD OF WEST VIRGINIA TO INTERVENE WITH DEPARTMENT ON BEHALF OF FAMILY. HE ALSO SAID THAT FAMILY ARE CONTEMPLATING INFORMING SELECTED MEMBERS OF THE U.S. PRESS IN EFFORT TO GIVE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PUBLICITY TO CASE. FIRESTONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BRUSSE08916
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760346-0234
From: BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760964/aaaaccpm.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 QUITO 6439
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <11 AUG 2004 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: W/W - DELILAH YODER AND JAMES HERSCHBERGER
TAGS: CASC, BE, EC, (YODER, DELIAH), (HERSCHBERGER, JAMES)
To: STATE QUITO
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006